[13th March 1954

Reserve forests in South Arcot district.

* 141 Q.—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of reserve forests in South Arcot district and their extent and the number of watchers and guards appointed to take care of them during 1952–53?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The number of Reserve Forests in South Arcot district during 1952–53 was 65.

The total extent of Reserve Forests in South Arcot district during 1952–53 was 251·39 square miles.

Thirty-eight Forest Guards and thirty-eight Forest Watchers were employed for the protection of the forests."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, when we take into consideration the number of watchers and guards employed and the jurisdiction they have to cover, the jurisdiction is so great that they could not check illicit grazing and illicit cutting of trees. May I know whether the Government are aware of this fact and, if so, what steps have they taken to check these offences and also to increase the number of watchers and guards? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I am aware that the protective staff is not adequate for the work expected of them. But the difficulty is one of finding additional finance for increasing their number."

Sri K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that most of the reserved forests taken over from panchayats are now getting denuded on account of the inadequacy of protective staff and, if so, will the Government consider the question of transferring them back to Forest Panchayats? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I can tell the hon. Member that retransferring these reserved forests to the Forest Panchayat will not be a remedy. I can, however, assure the hon. Member that I am looking into the question of taking proper steps towards preventing offences of this kind and also to improve the condition of the forests in the panchayat areas."

Misappropriation of the amount paid as compensation to Alanduraiyar and Kothandaramaswami Devasthanam, Ariyalur.

11–10 a.m. * 142 Q.—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of compensation paid to the temple, viz., Alanduraiyar and Kothandaramaswami Devasthanam at Ariyalur;

(*b*) to whom the amount was paid;

(*c*) whether the then Executive Officer of the temple misappropriated a portion of the amount; and

(*d*) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

13th March 1954]

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" (a) An amount of Rs. 5,702–0–10 has been paid to the Alanduraiyar and Kothandaramaswamy Devasthanam at Ariyalur under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act of 1947 in respect of the village of Kolappadi belonging to the Devasthanam.

" (b) Out of the total amount, Sri S. M. Balasubramaniam, ex-manager, received Rs. 4,874–5–11 and the present Manager Sri M. Rajagopalan received Rs. 827–10–11.

" (c) A sum of Rs. 135 is alleged to have been misappropriated by Sri S. M. Balasubramaniam, ex-manager.

" (d) This alleged misappropriation together with other irregularities were found out and charges were framed against the ex-manager by the ex-Hindu Religious Endowments Board. In the meanwhile the ex-manager Sri S. M. Balasubramaniam resigned and absconded. The matter is pending."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister when the charges against Sri S. M. Balasubramaniam were framed and whether the charges were framed against him when he was in service or after he resigned? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

Artificial insemination centre for cattle at Kollegal.

* 143 *Q.*—SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any proposal to start an artificial insemination centre for cattle at Kollegal; and

(b) if so, the present stage of the proposal?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) It is under consideration of the Government."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know why the Government are encouraging this method of artificial insemination and is it because the natural methods of procreation have failed as far as animals are concerned? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, due to short supply of bulls to cope with the large number of cows and she-buffaloes, there is no other go but to adopt this method."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I add something, Sir? I want to draw hon. Member Mr. Vinayakam's attention to the fact that in the case of men there is no such thing as castration. In the case of bulls, the whole of the country has adopted a system by which the male is castrated and used for work and hence, there is a paucity of the male animal so far as multiplication of species goes and, therefore, the quantum has to be multiplied. Nature has